

About ENERGY STAR® Buildings – 2017

The simple
choice for
energy
efficiency.



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About ENERGY STAR for Commercial Buildings

Businesses embrace ENERGY STAR for the same reasons that consumers do: it's a widely recognized symbol of energy efficiency, translating technical details into simple, credible, and actionable information. ENERGY STAR tools and resources help businesses determine the most cost-effective approach to managing energy use in their buildings and plants—enabling the private sector to save energy, increase profits, and strengthen their competitiveness. Thousands of diverse organizations across the nation—from Fortune 100® companies and major league sports teams to school districts and small businesses—have partnered with EPA to improve their facilities' energy performance.

Portfolio Manager and the 1 – 100 ENERGY STAR score

Commercial buildings have embraced EPA's energy measurement and tracking tool, ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager. In fact, hundreds of thousands of commercial properties use ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager to measure and track their energy performance. Owners of commercial buildings and industrial plants have also adopted EPA's 1 – 100 ENERGY STAR score as the industry standard for measuring energy performance.

The value of ENERGY STAR certification for buildings

In 2017, more than 9,500 commercial buildings earned the ENERGY STAR, bringing the total to more than 32,000. Buildings that earn the ENERGY STAR use, on average, 35 percent less energy than their peers. For commercial real estate, ENERGY STAR is a market differentiator. Studies find that ENERGY STAR certified buildings command a premium of up to 16 percent for sales prices and rental rates. Real estate companies use EPA's 1 – 100 ENERGY STAR score to demonstrate their sustainability to investors through reporting frameworks such as the Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB) and the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) and multifamily property owners use it to access discounted financing through products offered by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ENERGY STAR as a resource

Businesses and organizations also rely on ENERGY STAR as their trusted resource for practical information on saving energy. In 2017, American consumers and businesses visited the ENERGY STAR website more than 7.5 million times to learn how to reduce their energy costs, making use of popular tools such as ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager®.

Program savings

Together, the ENERGY STAR program for commercial buildings helped businesses and organizations save \$10 billion in energy costs in 2016, contributing to cumulative energy cost savings of \$150 billion since 1992.

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Spotlight on: state and local benchmarking initiatives

As of the end of 2017, 26 local governments and two states rely on EPA's ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool as the foundation for their building energy benchmarking requirements, creating uniformity for businesses and reducing transaction and implementation costs. Combined, these requirements apply to approximately 100,000 buildings, representing more than 10.8 billion square feet.

Additional local governments and states have required ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager in the benchmarking of their own facilities. [Learn more.](#)

Spotlight on: Texas A&M University

With a campus of more than 20 million square feet to manage, the energy team at Texas A&M University has to be strategic about where to invest. Working with ENERGY STAR, the team used Portfolio Manager to identify the 10 buildings with the highest energy consumption and the greatest room for improvement.

The team completed a full lighting retrofit, installed occupancy sensors and a pump variable frequency drive, and upgraded the building automation system. By knowing where to focus their improvements, Texas A&M was able to maximize their savings—\$912,000 in a single year.

For additional details about ENERGY STAR achievements see energystar.gov/numbers